



August Chamber Member of the Month

Congratulations to **E Brewing Company** — our Member of the Month! E Brewing has become a familiar face at events throughout our community, always willing to show up, get involved, and help make local gatherings even better. From supplying beverages at Chamber and community events to supporting organizations and celebrations throughout the area, their commitment to being part of what's happening locally does not go unnoticed.

They're continuing that support at our Chamber Golf Outing next week, where they'll be providing beverages and even cigars for golfers to enjoy on the course! We're grateful to have businesses like E Brewing Company that don't just operate in our community — they actively participate in it, support it, and help make it a more fun place to be. Cheers to a very deserving Member of the Month!



Back to School

The Whitko Community Schools administrative team spent two productive days together preparing for the 2026-2027 school year at E Brewing Company and Esterline Farms a few weeks back.

During their retreat, they focused on strengthening their leadership, aligning district priorities, and collaborating on the goals and initiatives that will guide their work throughout the year. Wishing you all the best this year!



Upcoming Chamber Events

From networking opportunities and ribbon cuttings to educational sessions and special gatherings, these events offer a great way to stay engaged and get the most out of your Chamber membership. We encourage all members to attend, participate, and take advantage of the connections and resources these events provide. We hope to see you at the following events:

**EVERY SATURDAY
8AM - NOON**

Whitley County Farmers Market

Join us every Saturday in June on the Courthouse Square for the Whitley County Farmers Market! From 8am - Noon, shop fresh produce, baked goods, handmade items, flowers, specialty foods, and more while supporting local farmers, makers, and small businesses. It's a great way to spend your Saturday morning, connect with the community, and discover something new each week!

**THURSDAY, AUGUST 20TH
@ 9:00 AM**

Chamber Golf Outing

Mark your calendars for the Whitley County Chamber Golf Outing this August at Eagle Glen Golf Club! Join fellow Chamber members, local businesses, and community leaders for a day of networking, friendly competition, and fun on the course. Whether you're golfing, sponsoring, or cheering on a team, it's one of the Chamber's most anticipated events of the year. Registration details on our Facebook.



WHITLEY COUNTY
Chamber
OF COMMERCE
A VISITORS CENTER

SDI *Steel Dynamics, Inc.*

3 RIVERS

EAGLE GLEN
GOLF CLUB

AUG 20



9:00 AM
BLOODY MARY –
MIMOSA BAR
sponsored by **PAIGE'S CROSSING**



HIT IT TO WIN IT
ON THE PUTTING GREEN



10:00 AM
TEE OFF



COMPLIMENTARY
BEER & BBQ

E BREWING
COMPANY



WE HOPE YOU'LL JOIN US!

Register or sponsor here:



Meet Our New **Community Event Manager**, **Bill Dittlinger**

I'm honored to serve as the Whitley County Chamber's Community Engagement Manager.

One thing I've learned over the years is that strong communities aren't built by individual businesses working alone. They're built when people, businesses, churches, organizations, and neighbors work together. Here in Whitley County, we believe we need each other. What I love most about our Chamber is that our members understand this. Time and again, I've watched local business owners make introductions, share opportunities, offer encouragement, and support one another. They know that when one business succeeds, our entire community benefits.

My role is simple: help tell those stories, build those relationships, and connect people with the businesses, organizations, and resources that make Whitley County such a special place to call home.

Whether you're a longtime resident, a new neighbor, a visitor, or a business owner, I hope this guide helps you discover the people, places, and organizations that make our community thrive.

Together, we're building a stronger Whitley County—one relationship at a time.



MEDIA RELEASE

MEDIA CONTACT

Leslie Megison
Media Relations Specialist
Parkview Health
leslie.megison@parkview.com



Virtual connection makes heart health support group convenient for Whitley County women

COLUMBIA CITY, Ind. – May 4, 2026 – Surviving a heart-related event, or being diagnosed with heart disease, is a wake-up call that it's time to take care of your health. And if you are a woman, then you may be part of a growing sisterhood seeking heart-healthy lifestyle support in northeast Indiana and northwest Ohio.

That's why Parkview Heart Institute (PHI) created the Her Heart Support Network – to encourage women living with heart disease to live well and to inspire them with education and connection to other women through shared experiences.

Based at PHI in Fort Wayne, the monthly Her Heart support group serves women from across Parkview's service area. Now, however, Whitley County women don't need to drive that far to participate. Instead, they can meet closer to home, at The Whitley County Government Center, 220 W. Van Buren St., Columbia City, and connect with the Fort Wayne group virtually via Zoom.

Her Heart Support Network meetings take place every second Thursday of the month, from 6 to 7:30 p.m., in Meeting Room C on the first floor of the center. Parking is available behind the building. Attendees should enter Door 5 at the back of the building to access Meeting Room C.

The free meetings offer useful information on heart health from Parkview experts, plus group activities and social support.

Darcy Hoopingarner, FNP-BC, Whitley County community health nurse, will facilitate the meetings, managing the Zoom connection, coordinating any hands-on activities, and relaying questions from the Whitley County group to speakers during their presentations to the group in Fort Wayne. Darcy, recently diagnosed with heart disease herself, works in partnership with PHI's Her Heart Program Coordinator Jill Zahm, MSN, RN-C, AHN-BC, who plans and facilitates the Fort Wayne meetings.

Zahm is excited that this new, virtual support group option will enable more Whitley County residents to be actively involved in improving their quality of life. May is Women's Health Month, so she reminds local women that there's no time like the present to get started.

"Women who join the group can expect to be encouraged, discover new strengths in themselves, connect with other people who understand the experience of living with heart disease, and learn about valuable health information and community resources," said Zahm.

Participation in the support group is free, and no registration is needed.

MORE

MEETING TOPICS FOR THE REMAINDER OF 2026

May 14: Women's Check Up Night – Let's celebrate National Women's Health Week! Join us to learn more about preventive screenings and vaccinations. Body composition, bone density and blood pressure screenings will be available.

June 11: My Chart: Your Best Friend That You Never Met – Get to know Parkview's patient portal. MyChart can help you track your health, communicate with your providers, and so much more.

July 9: Her Heart Annual Family Gathering – Join in the summer fun and games and healthy snacks. Invite your family to get in on the fun, too!

Aug. 13: When and What to Expect When Calling 911 – Going to the emergency room is stressful. Lisa Strebig, CCEMTP (critical care paramedic), will explain when to call 911, what to expect when you call and how calling 911 can improve your survival.

Sept. 10: Heart Rhythms and Drum Circle – Feel the beat! Mary King, MBA, BS, AS, virtual care manager, will explain heart rhythms as group members imitate their heartbeats in a drum circle.

Oct. 8: Ask the Pharmacist – Back by popular demand, Kris Howard, Pharm D, will answer your pharmacy questions. Jot down questions ahead of time and bring them with you.

Nov. 12: Ask the Cardiologist – Join Dr. Sabeena Ramrakhiani for a lively discussion on the hot topics in women's heart health and get answers to your questions. Make sure to write down your questions so you don't forget.

Dec. 10: Her Heart Holiday Party – Time to celebrate! Join the group for some festivities and crafts to enrich your holiday season.

The Her Heart Program at Parkview Heart Institute is made possible by generous donations to The Parkview Health Foundation.

CURIOUS? FIND OUT MORE

Zahm can be reached with questions at jill.zahm@parkview.com or 260-266-6153. More information is available at <https://www.parkview.com/medical-services/heart/womens-heart-health>.

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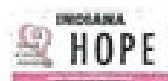
Mobile Mammography

The best protection from breast cancer is early detection. Francine's Friends offers quick, 15-minute breast cancer screenings in a convenient and private mammography coach.

All women age 40 and over who have not had a mammogram in the past 12 months are welcome to be screened. Many insurance providers are accepted, and funding is available for women who need financial assistance.

Parkview.com/FrancinesFriends

Thank you to the Parkview Health Foundation and the Indiana Breast Cancer Awareness Trust for making this program possible.



Whitley County | 2026



March 18	PPG – Family Medicine 4084 N US Hwy 33 Churubusco
April 20	Whitko Career Academy 710 N SR 5 Larwill
May 15	PPG Family Medicine 1270 E SR 205 Columbia City
August 11	80/20 1701 S 400 East Columbia City
September 16	PPG – Family Medicine 4084 N US Hwy 33 Churubusco
September 22	Whitley County Government 220 W Van Buren St Co. City
October 7	Peabody Public Library 1160 E SR 205 Co. City
November 16	Kroger 621 Countryside Drive Co. City
December 21	PPG – Family Medicine 4665 S State Rd 5 South Whitley

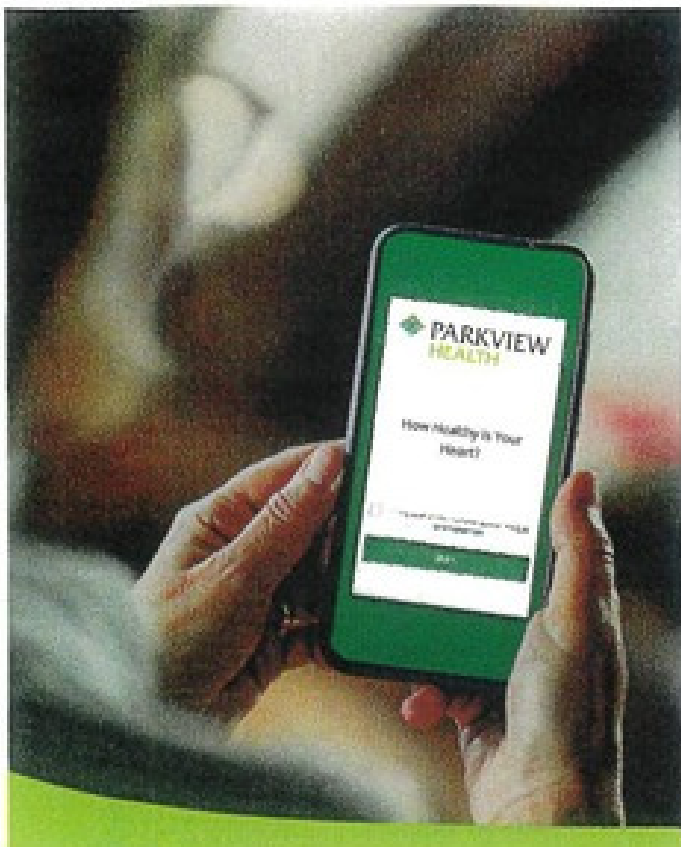
Call 260-483-1847 or 800-727-8439, ext. 68120 to schedule. Appointments preferred; walk-ins accepted based on availability.

Francine's Friends is a partnership between Parkview Packnett Family Cancer Institute and Breast Diagnostic Center. Mammograms and follow-up diagnostics are made possible by funding from the Parkview Health Foundation FF Mammography Fund and the Indiana Breast Cancer Awareness Trust, Inc. (IBCAT).

The coach is sponsored by: Med Pro Group, Radiation Oncology Associates, Vera Bradley, Steel Dynamics, Inc. and English, Bonter & Mitchell.

Schedule is subject to change.
For the most current information
visit Parkview.com/FrancinesFriends.





Take our five-minute Heart Disease Risk Assessment

Valuable insight about your risk for heart disease is just a short, free online assessment away. Knowledge is power when it comes to your health—and your results will allow you to make informed decisions.



Simply scan the QR code or visit parkview.com/heartdiseasehri to get started.



What to expect with the heart disease risk assessment

This is a quick questionnaire-style assessment that will take you less than five minutes to complete. After you provide your name and email, you'll be asked questions regarding the following:

- Age
- Ethnicity
- Where you live
- Height and weight
- Activity level
- Sleep habits
- Tobacco usage
- Blood pressure
- Cholesterol
- Diabetes
- Various heart-health data points
- Family history of heart disease

When you're finished, you'll receive an assessment of your cardiovascular disease risk and access to view your full report, which will provide an estimate of your heart's true age along with details regarding your personal risk factors. You'll also receive valuable resources and information on how you can take action to improve or maintain your heart health.



Upcoming **Member** Events

Our Chamber members are always hosting exciting events throughout the community, and we love helping spread the word. From grand openings and open houses to workshops, sales, and special celebrations, member events are a great way to support one another and stay connected.

If you'd like your upcoming event featured in a future newsletter, please message or email the Chamber with your event details.



2027 HGG Leadership Program



The HGG Leadership Program offers a comprehensive series of sessions designed to equip participants with essential leadership skills, covering topics such as government at all levels, economic development, nonprofits, civic engagement, political campaigns, and strategic communication.



Curriculum Highlights

- Foundations of Hoosier government – structure, history, and civic principles
- How to evaluate key issues impacting Indiana
- Insider look: Campaigns, elections, policymaking & advocacy
- Networking sessions with legislators, non-profit leaders, local government officials



To apply, visit <https://h4gg.com> or scan the QR code. Applications are due by July 31st!



COMMUNITY WORKSHOP S E R I E S

All classes offered at the Whitley County Historical Museum, 108 West Jefferson Street in Columbia City.



Fun with Cartoons
with Bob Lang
August 4 @ 1 p.m.



The Art of Acrylics
with Carl Mosher
September 26 @ 12:30 p.m.



Claymation Station
with Aaron Mathieu
October 20 @ 6 p.m.



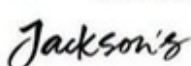
Making Jewelry
with Hannah Varga
September 9 @ 6 p.m.



Watercolor Postcards
with Jennifer Zartman Romano
September 30 @ 6 p.m.
October 8 @ 1 p.m.

REGISTRATION:
\$5 per class
Scholarships available.
Call 244.6372

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TechBridge

Initiative, INC.

presents

NEVER LOSE YOUR PHOTOS AGAIN

Learn easy ways to back up your photos from
your phone so your memories are safe.




BACK UP
TODAY, KEEP
MEMORIES
FOREVER.



TUESDAY, AUGUST 11, 2026

AT 2:00 PM

THURSDAY, AUGUST 27, 2026

AT 2:00 PM

PEABODY PUBLIC LIBRARY

\$20 AT THE DOOR OR R.S.V.P ONLINE

Grow Well Together

WHITLEY COUNTY

FARMERS Market

In partnership with



BOWEN HEALTH

WEDNESDAY NIGHT

— AT THE WHITLEY COUNTY —

FARMERS MARKET

at —
THE SHOPS AT THE SANCTUARY

202 N Chauncey St. • Columbia City, IN

AUGUST

26

SEPTEMBER

30

OCTOBER

28

5-7 PM

Brought to you by

WHITLEY COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
AND BOWEN HEALTH

Shop
Local

Fresh
Produce
Artisan
Goods
Live Music
Community

WANT TO BE A VENDOR? **CONTACT JENNIFER.**



jesterline@whitleychamber.com



916-747-5003



AUGUST 2026



Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday



Program Color Guide

- All Ages
- ▲ Adults
- ♥ Children
- ◆ Teens

1 ▲ Take & Make Sunflower Coasters While supplies last

2	3 ♥ Baby Storytime 10:30 am ▲ Cookies & Conversation 1pm ▲ Create & Connect 5:30 pm ▲ Yoga Flow 6 pm	4 ♥ The BenAnna Band 10:30 am ◆ Bookflix 4:30 pm ▲ A Brush with Madness 5:30 pm	5 ▲ Awaken Yogo 9:30 am ♥ Storytime @ Morsches 10 am ▲ Beginning Line Dancing 6 pm	6 ♥ Storytime 10:30 am ♥ Art Lab 4:30 pm ▲ Paperback Writers 6 pm	7 ♥ Baby Storytime 9:30 am ♥ Storytime 10:30 am ♥ Lego Club 3 pm	8 ▲ Master Gardener Series 2 pm
9	10 ♥ Baby Storytime 10:30 am ▲ Crafting Connections 11 am ▲ The Myths of Hospice 1 pm	11 ♥ Exploration Station 10:30 am ▲ A Novel Idea 11 am ◆ Game Night 4:30 pm ■ Learning About Our Local Lakes 5:30 pm ▲ True Crime Group 6 pm	12 ♥ Before 5 10 am	13 ♥ Storytime 10:30 am ▲ Crafty Mornings 11 am ♥ STEM Challenge 4:30 pm ▲ Spice Club 5:30 pm	14 ♥ Baby Storytime 9:30 am ♥ Storytime 10:30 am	15 ♥ Mural of the Month All Day
16	17 ♥ Baby Storytime 10:30 am ▲ Otherworldly Book Club 6:30 pm	18 ▲ Genealogy Club 10 am ♥ Block Party 10:30 am ◆ Quirky Crafts 4:30 pm ▲ Design & Make Jewelry 5:30 pm	19 ♥ Storytime @ Morsches 10 am	20 ▲ All Together at the Library 9:30 am ♥ Storytime 10:30 am ♥ Junior Detectives: Muddy Slime Adventure 4:30 pm ■ Naloxone Training 6 pm	21 ♥ Baby Storytime 9:30 am ♥ Storytime 10:30 am ▲ Bingo 10:30 am ♥ Inventor's Workshop 3 pm	22 CLOSED 
23	24 ♥ Baby Storytime 10:30 am ▲ Read 'Em & Weep 5:30 pm ♥ Baby Storytime 10:30 am ▲ Speed Puzzling 5:30 pm	25 ▲ American Red Cross Blood Drive 10 am - 4 pm ♥ Dance Party 10:30 am ▲ Edgy Art: Embroidered Dandelions 1 pm ◆ TAG 4:30 pm ▲ Dungeons & Dragons 5 pm	26 ♥ Storytime @ Morsches 10 am ■ Family Movie Night 6 pm	27 ▲ Woodlands Book Club 10 am ▲ Coffee & Cadavers 10 am ♥ Storytime 10:30 am ♥ Career Spotlight 4:30 pm ▲ Rustic Twine Jars 5:30 pm	28 ♥ Baby Storytime 9:30 am ♥ Storytime 10:30 am	29 ▲ Speed Puzzling 10 am

Follow Us



IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Scan for all August Events.



Cookies & Conversation

Monday
August 3rd
1 - 2:30 pm



Join us for a sweet & social time!

Come see the nationally touring duo celebrating music & inclusion for kids of all ages!

BenAnna Band

**Tuesday
August 4th
10:30 am**

Scan here to register

This program will focus on fish biology, watersheds, & the Crooked Lake Nature Preserve. Speakers include: Tyler Delauder, Adam Balzer & Lyn Crighton.

LEARNING ABOUT OUR LOCAL LAKES

**Tuesday
August 11th
5:30 pm**

Let's Design and Make Jewelry

Tuesday, August 18th
5:30 pm - 7 pm



Naloxone Training

Thursday
August 20th
6 pm - 7:30 pm

presented by
project.ME

Free community training on how to recognize the signs of an opioid overdose, respond effectively using naloxone, and the steps to take while waiting for emergency medical services to arrive.

A special story time featuring a community helper!

CAREER SPOTLIGHT

WITH HUMANE SOCIETY OF WHITLEY COUNTY

**Thursday
August 27th
4:30 pm**



8/16

11am-4pm

Please join us for a fun family celebration of 55 years of being family owned.

We are proud to keep Grandpa Andy's dream and legacy alive!

Local

**Food, Music
& Vendors**

- Car Wash Sales
- Giveaways
- Silent Auction
- Throw Back Pricing-\$0.50!

*Every extra \$ goes
directly to our friends at*



ARE YOU LOOKING FOR A FUN WAY TO
INVOLVE YOUR KIDS IN THE FARMERS MARKET?

Look for our interactive kids' tent



LITTLE SPROUTS



WHITLEY COUNTY FARMERS MARKET ON

MAY 30TH

JUNE 27TH

JULY 25TH

AUGUST 15TH

SEPTEMBER 26TH

FROM 9AM – 12PM

HOSTED BY:



**UNITED
WAY**



WHITLEY RESOURCE FAIR SPONSORED BY UNITED WAY

HELPING OUR FAMILIES, ADULTS, & SENIORS CONTINUE TO GROW BY BUILDING
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & INCREASING AWARENESS OF LOCAL SERVICES IN
WHITLEY COUNTY

FREE ACTIVITIES:

- Lunch (for the 1st 500 People)
- Vendors
- Back to school supplies / backpacks
- Back to school hair cuts
- Sports Physicals
- High School Athletic Cardiac Screening (50 screenings available)
- Dental and Vision screenings (for school aged children)
- Sensory Station
- Story Times
- Craft Tables
- A Marketplace
- Shoe Vouchers

LOCATION: Indian Springs Middle School 1692 IN-9 Columbia City, IN 46725



8/1/2026 10 am - 2 pm





SMITH
RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL
ROOFING



Customer

APPRECIATION DAY

Friday, September 18th | 5:00pm - 8:00pm

220 Frontage Road
Columbia City, IN 46725



FREE FOOD



GAMES



KID'S ACTIVITIES



PRIZES

Join us for a chance to win:

YETI Cooler • Grill • Gift Baskets • And More!

Celebrating 25 Years of Serving Our Community!

We couldn't have reached this milestone without our incredible customers. Come celebrate with us as we say **THANK YOU** for your continued trust and support.



Career Link



\$65

EQ: SKILLS THAT DRIVE SUCCESS

How Emotional Intelligence Supports Performance, Leadership, and Collaboration

Individuals and organizations don't succeed on technical expertise alone. The ability to navigate relationships, communicate effectively, adapt to change, and make thoughtful decisions has become one of the strongest predictors of long-term success. This workshop explores the science of emotional intelligence and provides participants with practical strategies to strengthen the human skills that improve teamwork, leadership, and organizational performance.



Facilitator

ANDIE HINES-LAGEMANN, MPSYCH

AGENDA

HOOR ONE

Why "Soft Skills" Aren't Soft

HOOR TWO

Emotions as Data

HOOR THREE

Emotional Skill Building

HOOR FOUR

Applying EQ at Work

8 AM - NOON
THURSDAY, SEPT 24

Ivy Tech Community College
2545 Silveus Xing, Warsaw, IN

Questions:

Heather Vance | HVance6@ivytech.edu

SCAN CODE TO RSVP





SAVE ^{THE} DATE

SATURDAY

10.24.2026

JOIN US FOR THE
3RD ANNUAL

Farm to Fork Fundraiser Dinner

Mark your calendars and get ready for a
beautiful night on the farm!

Tickets and sponsorship options available soon
via our website.

Attend, bring a friend and support more children
in Nature!

5pm-8:30pm

3426 Old Trail Rd., Columbia City, IN

GIVINGGARDENSOFINDIANA.COM